COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

(Legislative Session of Vrischigam 1101.)

Wednesday the 9th of December 1925.

The Council met in the Council chamber in the Town Hall, Ernakulam, at 11. 30. a. m. on the 24th of Vrischigam 1101 corresponding to the 9th of December 1925.

All the members present on the previous day, with the exception of Mr. S. F. Nunez, were present. The President was in the Chair.

President.—We will commence the day's business with Questions and Answers as usual.

Questions and Answers.

The Cultivation of paddy in the backwater side of the Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk.

Mr. A. B. SALEM

51. Will the Government be pleased to inform the extent of cultivable unassigned lands :

(i) in the various taluks of the State;

(ii) in the Reserved Forests?

Mr. I. RAMAN MENON.

(i) The extent of cultivable unassigned lands in the various taluks is.—

Cochin-Kanayannur	900.22½ acres
Mukundapuram	782.61 ,,
Trichur	133.71 ,,
Talappalli	664.61¼ ,,
Chittur	5.61 ,,
Cranganur	30.00 ,,

(ii) The extent fit for cultivation in the Reserved Forests is roughly estimated at 10,000 acres.

N. B.—The extent given is the extent fit for food-crop cultivation.

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Mr. A. B. SALEM.

Are the ten thousand acres of land in the Reserve Forests available for cultivation?

Mr. K. GOVINDA MENON.

They are now Reserve Forests. They will be made available for assignment.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

I ask whether they have been made available for assignment.

Mr. K. GOVINDA MENON.

No.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

52. Will the Government be pleased to inform:

(i) The main difficulties encountered in the cultivation of paddy in the backwater side of the Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk;

(ii) Whether any such or other difficulties in the successful cultivation have been brought to their notice by the ryots, and if so, what remedial measures have been taken, or are under contemplation of the Government?

Mr. I. RAMAN MENON.

(i) The main difficulties are (a) want of proper facilities for drainage and (b) susceptibility to damage by ingress of salt water.

(ii) Yes. The ryots of Mulanturuttu and Ambalur urged the putting up of a bund at Kanjiramittam for protecting their lands from the ingress of salt water. The villagers of Kumbalam have applied for the construction of a bund for the successful harvest of the second crop. Some of the agriculturists in Ernakulam have brought to notice that drainage in the Karittala *padam* is insufficient. The wet lands on either side of Chitrapuzha are subject to floods during monsoon. All these matters are under investigation. Among the measures already taken by Government may be mentioned.— (1) the construction of several sluices at Chellanam, which help to drain away the extensive paddy land after the monsoon, while preventing the ingress of salt water into the lands during high tides; (2) the opening of suitable drainage canals in the villages of Narakkal and Nayarambalam; (3) the erection of protective bunds in Pallippuram and Kulippalli with subventions, (4) the putting up of a long bund in Edavanakkad to fill up the breach

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created by the floods of 1099 and (5) the maintenance and repair of a large number of *chiras* at Government cost.

The Number of Veterinary Surgeons in each Hospital.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

53. Are there more than one Veterinary Surgeon in each of the Hospitals? If not, when the Surgeon is at large, what arrangements have been made for the treatment of animals brought in his absence?

Mr. I. RAMAN MENON.

No, but there is an additional Surgeon who is for the time being posted at Trichur. When the Surgeon is at large, the following arrangements are in vogue for the treatment of animals brought to the Hospital in his absence:—

The compounders of the Hospital will look after the routine cases of the Hospitals, such as prescriptions of cases that are already examined by the Surgeon and attend on cases that are daily dressed.

As regards new cases brought during the absence of the Surgeon, the compounder has instructions to attend on such cases as external injuries, wounds, ulcers, sores, &c.

In regard to other cases requiring examination by the Surgeon, the owners of animals are asked to detain the animal in the Hospital or bring the same again when the Surgeon returns to Head-quarters. In the matter of very urgent cases that require immediate attention, such as parturition, serious accidents, etc., the compounders are given strict instructions to give immediate intimation to the Surgeon.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

In the matter of urgent cases that require immediate attention the compounders are asked to give immediate information to the Surgeon. May I know who the Surgeon is?

Mr. I. RAMAN MENON.

Do you mean when the Surgeon is not in the camp, i. e., out of his jurisdiction?

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

There is only one Surgeon for the whole State. He must be given intimation. He will not be able to do full justice to all the animals. Is he likely to give information about his movements?

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